

**FINAL
DECISION DOCUMENT FOR THE
UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK PARCELS
FORT McCLELLAN, CALHOUN COUNTY, ALABAMA**

ISSUED BY: THE U. S. ARMY

APRIL 2001

**U.S. ARMY ANNOUNCES
DECISION DOCUMENT**

This Decision Document presents the determination that no further remedial action will be necessary to protect human health and the environment at 26 underground storage tank (UST) parcels at Fort McClellan (FTMC) in Calhoun County, Alabama. A list of the 26 UST parcels addressed in this Decision Document is presented on Page 2. The locations of the UST parcels at FTMC are shown on Figures 1 and 2. In addition, this Decision Document provides the site background information used as the basis for the no further action decision.

This Decision Document is issued by the U.S. Army Garrison at FTMC with involvement by the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Cleanup Team (BCT). The BCT consists of representatives from the U.S. Army, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IV, and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM). The BCT is responsible for planning and implementing environmental investigations at FTMC.

Based on the results of closure assessments completed at the 26 UST parcels addressed in this Decision Document, the U.S. Army will implement no further action at these sites. This decision was made by the U.S. Army with concurrence by the BCT.

This Decision Document summarizes site information presented in detail in background documents that are part of the administrative record for the UST parcels. A list of background documents for the UST parcels is presented on Page 3. A copy of the administrative record for the UST parcels is available at the public repositories listed on Page 4.

**REGULATIONS GOVERNING
SITE**

FTMC is undergoing closure by the BRAC Commission under Public Laws 100-526 and 101-510. The 1990 Base Closure Act, Public Law 101-510, established the process by which U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) installations would be closed or realigned. The BRAC Environmental Restoration Program requires investigation and cleanup of federal properties prior to transfer to the public domain. In

addition, the Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act (CERFA) (Public Law 102-426) requires federal agencies to identify real property on military installations scheduled for closure that can be transferred to the public for redevelopment or reuse. Consequently, the U.S. Army is conducting environmental studies of the impact of suspected contaminants at parcels at FTMC. The BRAC Environmental Restoration Program at FTMC follows the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) process.

SITE BACKGROUND

FTMC is located in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains of northeastern Alabama near the cities of Anniston and Weaver in Calhoun County. FTMC comprises two main areas of government-owned properties: the Main Post and Pelham Range. Until May 1998, the FTMC installation also included the Choccolocco Corridor, a 4,488-acre tract of land that was leased from the State of Alabama. The Main Post, which occupies 18,929 acres, is bounded on the east by the Choccolocco Corridor, which

UST PARCELS

| | |
|--|--|
| Parcel 9(7), Recreation Building, Building 503 | Parcel 49(7), Dental Clinic, Building 1929 |
| Parcel 15(7), WAC Museum, Building 1077 | Parcel 50(7), PX, Building 1965 |
| Parcel 31(7), Ammunition Supply Point at Building 4407 | Parcel 51(7), Post Office, Building 1966 |
| Parcel 33(7), Building S-55 | Parcel 54(7), Barracks, Building 3131 |
| Parcel 34(7), Fitness Center, Building 128 | Parcel 55(7), Headquarters, Building 3161 |
| Parcel 35(7), Field House, Building 130 | Parcel 56(7), Community Club, Building 3212 |
| Parcel 36(7), Administrative Building, Building 141 | Parcel 57(7), Recreation Center, Building 3213 |
| Parcel 38(7), Bivouac Area, B-44 | Parcel 58(7), Chapel, Building 3293 |
| Parcel 39(7), Clothing Building, Building 273 | Parcel 63(7), Building 162 |
| Parcel 40(7), Noble Army Hospital, Building 292 | Parcel 167(7), WAC Museum, Building 1077 |
| Parcel 43(7), Building 796 | Parcel 502(7), UST Building 1338 |
| Parcel 44(7), Building 1201 | Parcel 505(7), UST Building 3179 |
| Parcel 45(7), Building 1202 | Parcel 506(7), UST Building 3691 |

previously connected the Main Post with the Talladega National Forest. Pelham Range, which occupies 22,245 acres, is located approximately 5 miles due west of the Main Post and adjoins the Anniston Army Depot on the southwest.

Twenty-five of the 26 UST parcels covered in this Decision Document are located on the Main Post of FTMC (Figure 1). Parcel 38(7) is located within the Choccolocco Corridor (Figure 2). The approximate UST locations were identified in the environmental baseline survey (Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc. [ESE], 1998). The USTs ranged in size from 150 gallons to 20,000 gallons and most were used to store heating oil. However, a few of the USTs contained diesel fuel or gasoline. The majority of the USTs were either removed or closed-in-place without being replaced by new USTs. Based on the initial closure assessment conducted at the time of tank removal, it was determined that only Parcel 15(7) did not require

additional investigation (IT, 1999a). IT conducted additional closure assessments at each of the remaining UST parcels (IT, 2001).

SCOPE AND ROLE OF PARCEL

Information developed from the environmental baseline survey (ESE, 1998) was used to group areas at FTMC into standardized parcel categories using DOD guidance. All parcels received a parcel designation for one of seven CERFA categories, or a non-CERCLA qualifier designation, as appropriate. The seven CERFA categories include CERFA Uncontaminated Parcels (Categories 1 and 2), CERFA Contaminated Parcels (Categories 3 through 7), and CERFA Qualified Parcels. The UST parcels were categorized as CERFA Category 7 parcels in the environmental baseline survey. CERFA Category 7 parcels are areas that are not evaluated or require further evaluation (ESE, 1998).

With the issuance of this Decision

Document, the UST parcels addressed in this Decision Document are recategorized as CERFA Category 3 parcels. Category 3 parcels are areas where release, disposal, and/or migration of hazardous substances has occurred but at concentrations that do not require a removal or remedial response.

CLOSURE ASSESSMENTS

Closure assessments were conducted at each UST parcel to determine whether chemical constituents are present at the site at concentrations that present an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment (IT, 1999a; IT 2001).

Subsurface soil samples and groundwater samples were collected at each UST site. Subsurface soil samples were collected at depths greater than 1 foot below ground surface. Groundwater samples were collected from monitoring wells

PRIMARY BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS FOR THE UST PARCELS

Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc. (ESE), 1998, *Final Environmental Baseline Survey, Fort McClellan, Alabama*, prepared for U.S. Army Environmental Center, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, January.

IT Corporation (IT), 2001, *Final Underground Storage Tank Closure Assessment Report, Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama*, February.

IT Corporation (IT), 2000, *Final Human Health and Ecological Screening Values and PAH Background Summary Report, Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama*, July.

IT Corporation (IT), 1999a, *UST Summary Report, Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama*, April.

IT Corporation (IT), 1999b, *Final Site-Specific Field Sampling Plan Attachments, Site Investigation for Underground Storage Tank Closure Assessments, Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama*, September.

Science Applications International Corporation, 1998, *Final Background Metals Survey Report, Fort McClellan, Alabama*, July.

installed during the closure assessments. Typically, a minimum of three subsurface soil samples (two downgradient and one upgradient) and one groundwater sample (downgradient) were collected at each UST site. Samples were analyzed for benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene (BTEX); polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH); and lead.

To evaluate whether detected constituents present an unacceptable risk to human health and the environment, the analytical results were compared to human health site-specific screening levels (SSSL) for FTMC (IT, 2000). The SSSLs were developed as part of human health risk evaluations associated with SIs being performed under the BRAC Environmental Restoration Program at FTMC. Additionally,

metal concentrations exceeding SSSLs were compared to media-specific background screening values (Science Applications International Corporation [SAIC], 1998).

The potential threat to human receptors at the UST parcels is expected to be low. The analytical data were screened against residential human health SSSLs to evaluate each site for possible unrestricted land reuse. In soils, with the exception of one PAH compound (benzo[a]pyrene) in one sample, the BTEX and PAH concentrations were below residential human health SSSLs. The benzo(a)pyrene concentration (0.21 milligrams per kilogram [mg/kg]) marginally exceeded the residential human health SSSL (0.085 mg/kg) in one subsurface sample collected at Parcel 49(7). Given the low concentration and

limited impacted area, benzo(a)pyrene is not expected to pose an unacceptable risk to human health in the residential land-use scenario.

In groundwater, both naphthalene (at one location) and lead (at three locations) were detected at concentrations exceeding residential human health SSSLs. Although naphthalene was detected in the groundwater at Parcel 38(7), it was not detected at any other parcel, either in groundwater or soil. Based on the limited impacted area, the potential impact to human receptors from naphthalene is expected to be minimal.

The lead concentrations exceeding the SSSL and background values were detected at Parcels 44(7), 45(7), and 167(7). Lead concentrations in the remaining

**PUBLIC INFORMATION REPOSITORIES
FOR FORT McCLELLAN**

Anniston Calhoun County Public Library

Reference Section

Anniston, Alabama 36201

Point of Contact: Ms. Sunny Addison

Telephone: (256) 237-8501

Fax: (256) 238-0474

Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Houston Cole Library

9th Floor

Jacksonville State University

700 Pelham Rd

Jacksonville, Alabama 36265

Point of Contact: Ms. Rita Smith (256) 782-5249

Hours of Operation: Monday – Thursday 7:30 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Friday 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 3:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

groundwater samples were below the SSSL and were below either the background concentration or within the range of background values determined by SAIC (1998). The elevated lead concentrations at Parcels 44(7), 45(7), and 167(7) are likely the result of high turbidity at the time of sample collection and are not believed to be related to site activities. Given the limited impacted area, lead is not expected to pose an unacceptable risk to human health in the residential land-use scenario.

SITE REMEDIAL ACTIONS

Remedial actions were not conducted at the UST parcels

addressed in this Decision Document.

**DESCRIPTION OF NO
FURTHER ACTION**

Remedial alternatives were not developed for the UST parcels. No further action is selected because remedial action is unnecessary to protect human health or the environment at these sites. The lead and chemical compounds detected in site media do not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment. Therefore, the sites are released for unrestricted land reuse. Furthermore, the UST parcels are recategorized as CERFA Category 3 parcels. Category 3 parcels are areas where release, disposal, and/or migration of hazardous

substances has occurred but at concentrations that do not require a removal or remedial response. The U.S. Army will not take any further action to investigate, remediate, or monitor the UST parcels addressed in this Decision Document.

The following costs are associated with implementing the no-action alternative:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| Capital Cost: | \$0 |
| Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs: | \$0 |
| Present Worth Cost: | \$0 |
| Months to Implement: | None |
| Remedial Duration: | None. |

DECLARATION

Further remedial action is unnecessary at the UST parcels. The no further action remedy protects human health and the environment, complies with relevant federal and state regulations, and is a cost-effective application of public funds. This remedy will not leave in place hazardous substances at concentrations that require limiting the future use of the parcel, or that require land-use control restrictions. The UST sites are released for unrestricted land reuse. In addition, the UST parcels are recategorized as CERFA Category 3 parcels. Category 3 parcels are areas where release, disposal, and/or migration of hazardous substances has occurred but at concentrations that do not require a removal or remedial response. There will not be any further remedial costs associated with implementing no further action at the UST parcels.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Any questions or comments concerning this Decision Document or other documents in the administrative record can be directed to:

Mr. Ronald M. Levy
Fort McClellan BRAC
Environmental Coordinator
Tel: (256) 848-3539

E-mail: LevyR@mcclellan-emh2.army.mil

ACRONYMS

| | |
|--------|---|
| BCT | BRAC Cleanup Team |
| BRAC | Base Realignment and Closure |
| BTEX | benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene |
| CERCLA | Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act |
| CERFA | Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act |
| DOD | U.S. Department of Defense |
| ESE | Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc. |
| FTMC | Fort McClellan |
| IT | IT Corporation |
| mg/kg | milligrams per kilogram |
| PAH | polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbon |
| SAIC | Science Applications International Corporation |
| SSSL | site-specific screening level |
| UST | underground storage tank |

Prepared under direction of:

Ellis Pope
Environmental Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District
Mobile, Alabama

Date

Reviewed by:

Ronald M. Levy
BRAC Environmental Coordinator
Fort McClellan, Alabama

Date

Approved by:

Glynn D. Ryan
Site Manager
Fort McClellan, Alabama

Date